

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 14 have been amended, claims 3, 7, 10 to 13 and 16 have been canceled and claims 21 to 28 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 17 to 28 are now active in this application. Please charge any costs to Deposit Account No. 20-0668.

Claims 1 to 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kirkpatrick, II (U.S. 6,104,231). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 requires, among other features, the step of locating the centroid of the semiconductor chip. No such step is taught or suggested by Kirkpatrick, II either alone or in the combination as claimed. The center of the chip is not necessarily the centroid though it can be. The centroid is dependent upon the chip geometry.

Claim 1 further requires the step of forming an op-amp having matched components in said semiconductor chip, the input stages of said matched components of the op-amp spaced apart and disposed at substantially the centroid of the semiconductor chip. No such step is taught or suggested by Kirkpatrick, II either alone or in the combination as claimed.

Claims 2 and 4 to 6 depend from claim 1 and therefore define patentably over Kirkpatrick, II for at least the reasons presented above with reference to claim 1.

Claim 14 requires, among other features, an op-amp in the die containing matched components having inputs spaced apart and disposed at substantially the centroid. No such feature is taught or suggested by Kirkpatrick, II either alone or in the combination as claimed.

Claims 15, 17 and 18 depend from claim 14 and therefore define patentably over Kirkpatrick, II for at least the reasons presented above with reference to claim 14.

Claims 8, 9, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirkpatrick, II in view of Halbert (U.S. 5,623,232). The rejection is respectfully traversed.


Claims 8 and 9 depend from claim 1 and claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 14 and therefore define over the applied references for at least the reasons presented above with reference to the claims from which they depend since Halbert fails to overcome the deficiencies in Kirkpatrick, II as discussed above.

Claims 21 and 23 are the same as claims 1 and 14 except for increased breadth in being directed to a device rather than an op-amp. Accordingly, the arguments presented above with reference to claims 1 and 14 applies to these claims.

Claims 22 and 23 to 28 depend from claims 21 or 23 and therefore define over the applied references for at least the reasons presented above with reference to the claims from which they depend.

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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